



**ASSOCIATION of
GOVERNMENTS**

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Communications
Alan D. Wapner, Ontario

MEETING OF THE

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Please Note Change In Time
Thursday, March 6, 2008
10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

SCAG Offices
818 W. 7th Street, 12th Floor
Conference Room – Riverside A
Los Angeles, CA 90017
(213) 236-1800

If members of the public wish to review the attachments or have any questions on any of the agenda items, please contact Deby Salcido at 213.236.1993 or salcido@scag.ca.gov

Agendas and Minutes for the Energy and Environment Committee are also available at:

www.scag.ca.gov/committees/eec.htm

SCAG, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), will accommodate persons who require a modification of accommodation in order to participate in this meeting. If you require such assistance, please contact SCAG at (213) 236-1868 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting to enable SCAG to make reasonable arrangements. To request documents related to this document in an alternative format, please contact (213) 236-1868.

Energy and Environment Committee Membership

March 2008

*Cook, Debbie, **Chair***
*Clark, Margaret, **Vice Chair***

Huntington Beach
Rosemead

M e m b e r s

Baroldi, Layne
Bertone, Denis
Brennan, Brian
Carrillo, Victor
Eaton, Paul
Forester, Larry
Gafin, David
Gardner, Nancy
Hanks, Keith
Harrison, Jon
Hernandez, Steve
King, Dorothy
Land, Abbe
Lilburn, Penny
Marchand, Paul
McDowell, Kelly
Miller, Mike
Montgomery, Richard
Nelson, Larry
Parks, Linda
Pedroza, Sam
Tyler, Sid
Uranga, Tonia Reyes
Van Arsdale, Lori
Washburn, Dennis
Young, Toni
Zine, Dennis

R e p r e s e n t i n g

Gateway Cities
SGVCOG
VCOG
Imperial County
Montclair
Signal Hill
Downey
Newport Beach
Azusa
Redlands
CVAG
Gateway Cities
Westside Cities
SANBAG
Cathedral City
El Segundo
Ex-Officio
Manhattan Beach
Artesia
Thousand Oaks
SGVCOG
Arroyo Verdugo
Long Beach
Hemet
Calabasas
Port Hueneme
Los Angeles

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

AGENDA

MARCH 6, 2008

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TIME PG#

1.0 CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
(Hon. Debbie Cook, Chair)

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – Members of the public desiring to speak on items on the agenda, or items not on the agenda, but within the purview of the Council, must fill out and present a speaker's card to the Senior Administrative Assistant prior to speaking. A speaker's card must be turned in before the meeting is called to order. The Energy and Environment Committee may consider and act upon any of the items listed on the agenda. Comments will be limited to three minutes. The President may limit the total time for all comments to twenty minutes.

3.0 REVIEW and PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

4.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

4.1 Approval Items

4.1.1 Minutes of February 7, 2008 Meeting Attachment 1

5.0 ACTION ITEMS

5.1 2008 Regional Champion Awards Attachment 10 min 6
(Staff)

Each policy committee may nominate and recommend their Regional Champion candidate, and seek Regional Council approval.

Recommended Action: Select a Regional Champion and seek Regional Council approval.

6.0 WATER POLICY TASK FORCE REPORT
(Hon. Dennis Washburn, Chair)



ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

AGENDA

MARCH 6, 2008

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			TIME	PG#
7.0	<u>SOLID WASTE TASK FORCE REPORT</u> <i>(Hon. Toni Young, Chair)</i>			
8.0	<u>INFORMATION ITEMS</u>			
8.1	<u>Environmental Planning Overview</u> <i>(Jacob Lieb, SCAG)</i>	Attachment	10 min	7
	Staff will provide an overview of environmental planning activities at SCAG.			
8.2	<u>Task Forces and Working Groups</u> <i>(Jacob Lieb, SCAG)</i>	Attachment	10 min	9
	Staff will introduce a discussion on task forces and working groups that report to the EEC.			
8.3	<u>Update on the RCP PEIR Schedule</u> <i>(Jessica Kirchner, SCAG)</i>	Attachment	5 min.	11
	Staff will summarize the proposed schedule for the 2008 RCP PEIR.			
8.4	<u>2008 RTP Conformity Update</u> <i>(Jonathan Nadler, SCAG)</i>	Attachment	10 min	13
	Staff will provide an update on the conformity analysis for the 2008 RTP.			
8.5	<u>Update on SCAG, AQMD, ARB White Paper</u> <i>(Jonathan Nadler, SCAG)</i>		5 min	16
	Staff will provide an update on the White Paper outlining the need to conceive alternative transportation and air quality strategies to achieve air quality standards and greenhouse gas reductions.			



ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

AGENDA

MARCH 6, 2008

	TIME	PG#
9.0		
<u>CHAIR'S REPORT</u>		
<i>(Hon. Debbie Cook)</i>		
10.0		
<u>STAFF REPORT</u>		
<i>(Sylvia Patsaouras, SCAG)</i>		
11.0		
<u>FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS</u>		
Any Committee member or staff desiring to place items on a future agenda may make such request.		
12.0		
<u>ANNOUNCEMENTS</u>		
13.0		
<u>ADJOURNMENT</u>		

The next meeting of the Energy and Environment Committee is scheduled for Thursday, April 3, 2008, at the SCAG office, downtown Los Angeles.



Energy and Environment Committee
of the
Southern California Association of Governments
February 7, 2008

Minutes

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE. AUDIO CASSETTE TAPE OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE FOR LISTENING IN SCAG'S OFFICE.

The Energy and Environment Committee held its meeting at the Southern California Association of Governments, downtown Los Angeles. The meeting was called to order by Debbie Cook, Chair. There was a quorum.

Members Present

Baroldi, Layne	Gateway Cities
Bertone, Dennis	SGVCOG
Carrillo, Victor	Imperial County
Clark, Margaret	Rosemead
Cook, Debbie	Huntington Beach
Eaton, Paul	City of Montclair
Forester, Larry	City of Signal Hill
Gafin, David	Downey
Hanks, Keith	Azusa
Hernandez, Steven	CVAG
King, Dorothy	Gateway Cities
McDowell, Kelly	El Segundo
Miller, Mike	Ex-Officio
Montgomery, Richard	Manhattan Beach
Nelson, Larry	Artesia
Parks, Linda	Ventura County
Pedroza, Sam	SGVCOG
Tyler, Sid	SGVCOG
Washburn, Dennis	Calabasas
Young, Toni	City of Port Hueneme

Members Not Present

Brennan, Brian	VCOG
Gardner, Nancy	Newport Beach
Harrison, Jon	City of Redlands
Land, Abbe	Westside Cities
Lilburn, Penny	SANBAG
Marchand, Paul	Cathedral City
Uranga, Tonia Reyes	Long Beach
Van Arsdale, Lori	Hemet
Zine, Dennis	Los Angeles

1.0 CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Hon. Debbie Cook, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., and led the group in the flag salute.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

3.0 REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

4.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

4.1 Approval Items

4.1.1 Minutes of January 3, 2008 Meeting

A motion was made (Larry Forester), SECONDED (Richard Montgomery), and UNANIMOUSLY approved.

5.0 ACTION ITEMS

5.1 Developing Statewide consensus on Funding and Support of Blueprint Planning

Justus Stewart, SCAG Staff, provided the report for this item.

A motion was made (Keith Hanks), SECONDED (Dennis Washburn), and UNANIMOUSLY approved.

5.2 Water Bond Planning funds: Implementing Legislation

Jeff Dunn, SCAG Staff, presented a report on this item.

A motion was made (Dennis Washburn), SECONDED (Paul Eaton), and UNANIMOUSLY approved.

5.3 HR 2421 (Oberstar): Clean Water Restoration Act of 2007

Jeff Dunn, SCAG Staff, summarized the provisions of HR 2421.

A motion was made (Toni Young), SECONDED (Larry Forester), and UNANIMOUSLY approved.

6.0 WATER POLICY TASK FORCE REPORT

The next meeting of the Water Policy Task Force is scheduled for 2/28/08.

7.0 SOLID WASTE TASK FORCE REPORT

The next meeting of the Solid Waste Task Force is scheduled for 2/20/08.

8.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

8.1 Southern California Edison Electricity Rates

Kim Kepin, So. Calif. Edison, provided a presentation on how electricity rates are calculated and the reasons for the proposed rate increases.

8.2 Conversion Technology Report

Coby Skye, Dept. of Public Works, LA County, provided the county's Phase II Conversion Technology Evaluation Report.

8.3 2008 RTP Growth Forecast

Hasan Ikhata, SCAG Executive Director, provided an update on the recent developments and comments related to the RTP Growth Forecasts.

8.4 Environmental Planning Overview

Due to time constraint, this item will be heard at next month's meeting.

8.5 2008 Regional Champion Awards

The Committee discussed possible candidates for recognition.

9.0 CHAIR'S REPORT

Debbie Cook, Chair, reported on the upcoming Southern California Edison Facility Tour scheduled for March 25th in Irwindale. She also mentioned the idea of possibly consolidating the several environmental related task forces into one or two.

The first of 4 public meetings regarding the Regional Comprehensive Plan will be held on February 13th in San Bernardino.

10.0 STAFF REPORT

Sylvia Patsaouras reported that the staff work for the Regional Comprehensive Plan Environmental Impact Report will begin this fiscal year and taken to the Regional Council next fiscal year, so as not to conflict with the Regional Transportation Plan EIR.

11.0 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

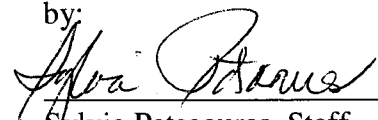
12.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Debbie Cook, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 11:30a.m.

Action Minutes Approved

by:



Sylvia Patsaouras, Staff
Energy and Environment

Energy and Environment Committee Attendance Report

2008

Member (including Ex-Office) LastName, FirstName	Date Appointed if after 1/1/08	Representing	X = County Represented					X = Attended = No Meeting NM = New Member												Total Mtgs Attended		
			Imperial	Los Angeles	Orange	Riverside	San Bernardino	Ventura	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov		Dec	
Gateway Cities																						
Baroldi, Layne				X																		
Bertone, Denis		SGVCOG		X																		
Brennan, Brian		VCOG																				
Carrillo, Victor*		Imperial Cnty	X																			
Clark, Margaret* (V-Chair)		Rosemead		X																		
Cook, Debbie* (Chair)		Huntington Bch		X																		
Eaton, Paul*		Montclair		X																		
Forester, Larry		Gateway Cities		X																		
Hanks, Keith*		Azusa		X																		
Hernandez, Steve		CVAG																				
Gafin, David*		Downey		X																		
Gardner, Nancy		OCCOG			X																	
Harrison, Jon		SANBAG							X													
King, Dorothy		Gateway Cities		X														X				
Land, Abbe		Westside Cities																X				
Liburn, Penny		SANBAG							X													
Marchand, Paul*		Cathedral City	X																			
McDowell, Kelly		SBCCOG		X														X	X			
Miller, Mike		Ex-Officio		X														X	X			
Montgomery, Richard		SBCCOG		X														X	X			
Nelson, Larry*		Artesia		X														X	X			
Pedroza, Sam		SGVCOG		X																		
Parks, Linda		Ventura Cnty																X				
Tyler, Sid		Arroyo Verdugo																	X	X		
Uranga, Tonia Reyes*		Long Beach		X														X				
Van Arsdale, Lori		WRCOG					X											X				
Washburn, Dennis*		Calabasas		X														X	X			
Young, Toni*		Port Hueneme																	X	X		
Zine, Dennis*		Los Angeles		X															X			
28		TOTALS	2	16	1	1		2		3												

* Regional Council Member

REPORT

DATE: March 6, 2008
TO: Policy Committees (CEHD, EEC, TCC)
FROM: Membership & Communications Subcommittee
SUBJECT: 2008 Regional Champion Awards

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL:



RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Select a Regional Champion and seek Regional Council approval.

BACKGROUND:

In 2005, the Regional Council authorized the establishment of the Regional Champion Awards recognizing Leadership and Regionalism related to SCAG's work. Each policy committee has an award to bestow upon a leader in one of their subject areas of focus. The intent is to recognize non-elected individuals for their service to the region, often as a volunteer. An award for excellence in Media and Communication, nominated by the Membership & Communication Subcommittee was also established.

Regional Champions honored since 2005 include: from CEHD – Randall Lewis of the Lewis Operating Companies, Art Gallucci, City Manager of Cerritos, and Hunter Johnson from LINC Housing; from EEC – Kay Martin from the BioEnergy Producers Association, James Stahl, General Manager of the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County, and Mike Mohajer, volunteer and retired Los Angeles County Waste Management official; from TCC – Dr. Geraldine Knatz and Richard Steinke, respective Executive Directors of the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles. The Media & Communication awards have recognized Tony Valdez of KTTV Fox 11, Ray Gonzalez from KTLA Channel 5, and Lisa Howard, reporter from Antelope Valley Press.

Regional Champions will be invited to the General Assembly on May 8th to be recognized during the Awards Luncheon at the Ontario Convention Center.


FISCAL IMPACT:

There are nominal costs in acquiring the actual awards.


Reviewed by:


Division Manager

Reviewed by:


Department Director

Reviewed by:


Chief Financial Officer

MEMO

DATE: March 6, 2008

TO: Energy and Environment Committee

FROM: Jacob Lieb, Program Manager, (213) 236-1921, lieb@scag.ca.gov

SUBJECT: Environmental Planning Overview

BACKGROUND:

SCAG staff, at the direction of the Regional Council and the Energy and Environment Committee undertakes a variety of environmental planning activities. In light of the appointment of several new members to the EEC, the recent completion of major tasks, and the upcoming budget deliberations, it is appropriate to provide an overview and discussion on the environmental planning function at SCAG.

Activities fall under the following categories –

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)/ Environmental Impact Report

Environmental staff prepares the Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for the Regional Transportation Plan, and is responsible for other on-going CEQA compliance activities. In the current year, staff will also be preparing an EIR for the Regional Comprehensive Plan.

Air Quality

SCAG has several air quality planning responsibilities including assuring compliance with Federal transportation conformity law and preparing portions of the South Coast Air Quality Management Plan. During the past year, air quality planning has increased in emphasis due to the recognition of an emissions related health crisis by the Regional Council. To that end, SCAG is participating in the drafting of a joint white paper along with the California Air Resources Board and the South Coast Air Quality Management District on future emissions reduction strategies.

Regional Comprehensive Plan

Environmental staff supports the development of the Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP), and all of its associated public process. The RCP has a sustainability focus, and features five individual chapters on environmental issues (water, energy, open space, solid waste, and air quality).

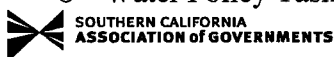
Environmental Justice

SCAG is responsible for complying with applicable Federal and State requirements on Environmental Justice (EJ). Activities include analyzing SCAG plans and programs to determine any disproportionate impacts, as well as conducting public outreach to stakeholder groups.

Task Force and policy support

Environmental Planning staff support the information sharing and policy deliberations for the following groups, in addition to the EEC –

- Solid Waste Task Force
- Water Policy Task Force



MEMO

- Open Space Working Group
- Energy Working Group
- Transportation Conformity Working Group

Anticipated Activities, Fiscal Year 2008-2009

The proposed activities for the next year are described briefly below. At this time, preliminary submissions have been made for the development of the agency budget, and comments and suggestions are welcome.

Compliance activities

As above, SCAG staff will perform required functions under CEQA, SAFETEA-LU, and Environmental Justice

Air Quality

Staff will perform mandated air quality planning functions with additional work and emphasis on future attainment strategy development, and on technical and analytical support to other transportation and regional planning functions


Mitigation and initiatives

Several policy initiatives, including those emerging from the draft RCP will be developed further. These are subject to further discussion through the completion of the RCP process, but are likely to include developing regional planning approaches to climate change, addressing energy uncertainty, and developing the region's capacity to plan and mitigate for open space impacts.

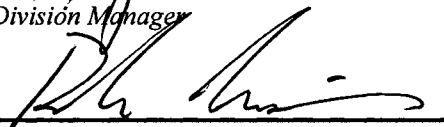
FISCAL IMPACT:

Information only at this time. Environmental planning activities are included in the Overall Work Program (08-020, Environmental Planning; 08-035, Regional Comprehensive Plan; and 08-025, Air Quality)

Reviewed by:


Division Manager

Reviewed by:


Department Director

Reviewed by:


Chief Financial Officer



MEMO

DATE: March 6, 2008

TO: Energy and Environment Committee

FROM: Jacob Lieb, Program Manager, (213) 236-1921, lieb@scag.ca.gov

SUBJECT: Task Forces and Working Groups Reporting to EEC

BACKGROUND:

A number of Task Forces and Working Groups report to the Energy and Environment Committee. The President has asked that each Policy Committee review the makeup and charge of each of these groups, and to discuss options for the most useful structure for the future. Options may include continuing the current structure, combining the functions of groups, or forming groups on an ad-hoc basis.

The EEC has the following standing task forces –

Solid Waste Task Force

This group is made up of EEC members, professionals in the field, and experts. Discussions cover a range of solid waste issues, with a particular interest in conversion technologies and legislative advocacy. The Solid Waste Task Force meets monthly.

Water Policy Task Force

This group is made up of EEC members as well as members of other SCAG policy committees, experts, and representatives of most water agencies in the SCAG region. The task force features outside presenters at most meetings, and functions as an information sharing and discussion forum. The Task Force meets quarterly.

Currently, the EEC also has the following special purpose working groups –

Open Space Working Group

The Open Space Working Group was formed in order to provide input to SCAG on the development of the Open Space and Habitat Chapter of the Regional Comprehensive Plan. The Working Group consists of EEC members, members of other policy committees, experts, practitioners, and environmental advocacy groups. The group met on an as-needed basis during 2006-7.

Energy Working Group

The Energy Working Group was formed in order to provide input to SCAG on the development of the Energy Chapter of the Regional Comprehensive Plan. The Working Group consists of EEC members, experts, practitioners, and environmental advocacy groups. The group met on a monthly basis during 2006-7, and more sporadically in recent months.

In addition to these groups that report directly to EEC, EEC members serve on the Regional Comprehensive Plan Task Force, under the purview of the Community, Economic and Human Development Committee. The RCP Task Force directs staff on the development of the RCP. The RCP itself, however, contains five

MEMO

chapters on environmental topics, and the EEC has purview over those chapters (energy, water, solid waste, air quality, and open space).

Upon the completion of the Regional Comprehensive Plan, the RCP Task Force, the Energy Working Group, and the Open Space Working Group no longer have specific charges. While these groups can continue to play a useful role in planning and public process for SCAG, it is appropriate to reconsider the purpose, makeup, and structure of these groups.

At this time, staff, at the direction of the President, is seeking the input and discussion of the EEC on the groups and task forces it oversees. In particular, staff is interested in how the task force structure might be best used to create inter-disciplinary discussion, and reinforce the multiple benefits concept embedded in the RCP.


FISCAL IMPACT:

Information only at this time. Environmental planning activities are included in the Overall Work Program (08-020, Environmental Planning; 08-035, Regional Comprehensive Plan; and 08-025, Air Quality)

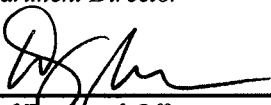
Reviewed by:


Division Manager

Reviewed by:


Department Director

Reviewed by:


Chief Financial Officer

MEMO

DATE: March 6, 2008

TO: Energy and Environment Committee

FROM: Jessica Kirchner, Senior Regional Planner, (213) 236-1983, kirchner@scag.ca.gov

SUBJECT: Update on the RCP PEIR Schedule

BACKGROUND:

The Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for the Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP) was originally planned as a joint PEIR for both the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and the RCP.

On November 1, 2007, SCAG's Regional Council voted in favor of preparing two separate PEIRs, one for the RTP and one for the RCP. This Regional Council action was primarily based on the fact that the RTP is a federally mandated plan with a definitive schedule for its adoption unlike the RCP which is in response to Regional Council direction, does not have a required deadline for adoption and is not specifically binding on SCAG's local jurisdiction members.

As part of the November action, SCAG's Regional Council determined the RCP should be evaluated once the RTP is fully developed, but also indicated the RCP schedule itself should be expedited. Staff previously presented an expedited schedule that called for adoption of the RCP by July 2008. However, the schedule is being revised to allow for the RTP process to move forward and avoid confusion between the two environmental efforts. The schedule below is based on anticipated adoption of the RTP in April 2008.


RCP PEIR Schedule	
April 7	Start comment period for NOP
May 9	End comment period for NOP
June 5	EEC action to release Draft RCP EIR
June 9	Start 45 day circulation
July 24	End of 45 day comment period
September 4	Ask EEC to recommend adoption of Final PEIR to RC
September 22	Mail responses to commenting agencies/persons
October 2	RC action to certify EIR/Adopt RCP

MEMO

FISCAL IMPACT:

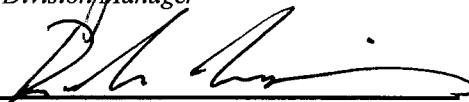
The Regional Council authorized \$150,000 in TDA funds for the preparation of the RCP PEIR.

Reviewed by:



Division Manager

Reviewed by:



Department Director

Reviewed by:



Chief Financial Officer

MEMO

DATE: March 6, 2007

TO: Energy and Environment Committee

FROM: Jonathan Nadler, Program Manager, (213) 236-1884; nadler@scag.ca.gov

SUBJECT: 2008 RTP Conformity Update

BACKGROUND:

Transportation conformity is required under the federal Clean Air Act (CAA) to ensure that federally supported highway and transit project activities conform to the purpose of the State Implementation Plan (SIP). "Conformity" means that transportation activities will not cause new air quality violations, worsen existing violations, or delay timely attainment of the relevant National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). Conformity applies to areas that are designated non-attainment, and those re-designated to attainment after 1990 ("maintenance areas") for the following transportation-related criteria pollutants: ozone, particulate matter (PM2.5 and PM10), carbon monoxide (CO), and nitrogen dioxide (NO₂).

The boundaries of the federal non-attainment/maintenance areas in the SCAG region are:

- *Ventura County Portion of the South Central Coast Air Basin (SCCAB)* - The entire county is a non-attainment area for 8-hour ozone
- *South Coast Air Basin (SCAB)* - The entire basin is a non-attainment for PM2.5 and 8-hour ozone, and a maintenance area for NO₂, CO, and PM10.
- *Antelope Valley and Victor Valley portions of Mojave Desert Air Basin (MDAB)* - Non-attainment areas for 8-hour Ozone
- *San Bernardino County Portion of MDAB* -
 - Searles Valley (situated in the NW part of the county) is non-attainment for PM10
 - San Bernardino County (excluding the Searles Valley area) within the MDAB is a non-attainment area for PM10
- *Riverside County Portion of Salton Sea Air Basin (SSAB)* - The entire Riverside County portion of SSAB (Coachella Valley) is a non-attainment area for PM10 and 8-hour ozone
- *Imperial County Portion of SSAB* - The entire Imperial County portion of SSAB is designated as non-attainment for 8-hour ozone and PM10.

The 2008 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) must pass the following four tests and analyses to meet the requirements for a positive conformity finding:

Regional Emissions Analysis: Regional emissions analyses, by non-attainment area and by pollutant, compare on-road emissions to the applicable on-road emissions budgets in the SIPs for the SCAG Region. The applicable emissions budgets are those approved and found to be adequate for conformity determination by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). In the absence of applicable emissions budgets, the regional emission tests for conformity finding are based on either a build/no-build or less than base year scenario. In the SCAG region, build/no build tests are performed for PM10 in the San Bernardino County portion of the MDAB and for PM10 and ozone in the Imperial County portion of the SSAB. There are emission budgets for all other non-attainment areas in the SCAG region.



MEMO

Timely Implementation of TCMs Analysis: This conformity test requires all Transportation Control Measures (TCM) projects subject to reporting to be fully funded and on schedule. TCMS are projects which reduce congestion and improve air quality. In the SCAG Region, there are two non-attainment areas which contain TCMs: the ozone AQMPs/SIPs for the SCAB and for the Ventura County portion of SCCAB. SCAG works with the County Transportation Commissions of these areas to ensure TCMs are on schedule or that steps are being taken to overcome obstacles.

Financial Constraint Analysis: The RTP must be financially constrained. Staff have determined that the Draft 2008 RTP, which is financed by Federal, State, local, and private sources, meets the requirements for financial constraint, subject to comments received during the public comment period.

Interagency Consultation and Public Involvement: Throughout its development, the 2008 RTP has been extensively discussed at meetings of various policy committees, working groups (including the Transportation Conformity Working Group [TCWG]), task forces, and technical advisory committees.

The conformity analysis is a complicated and challenging endeavor, requiring detailed data collection, computer modeling, extensive inter-agency coordination, technical analysis, and report writing. Staff has worked with the regional partner agencies and the State and Federal agencies to resolve numerous difficult issues in preparing the conformity analysis.

CONFOMRITY ANALYSIS CONSIDERATIONS:

The formal conformity finding will be based on the projects, plans, and policies in the Final 2008 RTP. The regional emissions analysis for the Draft 2008 RTP is based on the 2008 RTP Draft Policy Growth Forecast, and that analysis indicates a positive conformity finding. Based on comments received during the Draft 2008 RTP public comment period, regional transportation model runs were also performed to assess conformity with the Draft Baseline Forecast. The results indicate that a positive conformity finding may also be achieved using the Baseline Growth Forecast.

On January 24, 2008, staff participated in a teleconference with representatives from the Federal agencies (FHWA, FTA, U.S. EPA, and ARB) to discuss conformity related issues on the Draft 2008 RTP. At that meeting, SCAG staff was informed about a lack of progress involving the U.S. EPA's adequacy finding for the transportation emission budgets used in the 2008 RTP. This is crucial for adoption of the 2008 RTP, as a formal finding of conformity cannot be made until U.S. EPA determines the adequacy of the emission budgets. This critical information and issue had not been raised or discussed at any of the prior monthly interagency meetings of the Transportation Conformity Working Group. SCAG staff has been working with the State and Federal agencies diligently to resolve this issue.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Work associated with this task is included in the current year overall work program (08-025.SCGS1)

Reviewed by:


Division Manager



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
ASSOCIATION of GOVERNMENTS

DOC#143935, EEC
March 2008

J. Nadler; 2/19/2008; 10:11:23 AM

MEMO

Reviewed by:


Department Director

Reviewed by:


Chief Financial Officer

MEMO

DATE: March 6, 2007

TO: Energy and Environment Committee

FROM: Jonathan Nadler, Program Manager, (213) 236-1884; nadler@scag.ca.gov

SUBJECT: Update on SCAG, AQMD, ARB White Paper

BACKGROUND:


As part of the development of the State Implementation Plans for ozone and PM2.5, the California Air Resources Board (ARB), South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), and SCAG agreed to identify, develop and disseminate transformative solutions to attain federally mandated national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) for Southern California via a joint White Paper. The White Paper seeks to identify fundamentally new ways of conceiving transportation and air quality strategies that is necessary to reduce air pollution and make headway toward greenhouse gas reductions that contribute to global warming. Staff of each of the Agencies are working together to develop this comprehensive visioning document which frames the issues and challenges, and sets forth a vision of ultimately transforming Southern California toward a zero-emission society.

The Agencies are working to finalize a Draft White Paper to bring to our respective Regional Council and Boards. Staff will keep the EEC apprised of these on-going efforts.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Staff support for air quality planning and policy is covered under the Air Quality and Conformity staff work elements included in the current year overall work program (08-025.SCGS1).

Reviewed by:


Division Manager

Reviewed by:


Department Director

Reviewed by:


Chief Financial Officer